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MAY 20 2008

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A device for protection of an electrode ~~(4)~~ during resistance welding of workpieces, including a strip ~~(1)~~ placed over the electrode ~~(4)~~, means for holding the strip over the electrode, and means for driving the strip, wherein the strip comprises a first metal strip made of a first material ~~(1) is comprised of at least two superimposed to a second metal strip made of a second material which is different from the first material, wherein the first metal strip and second metal strip are strips (2, 3) made of different materials, said metal strips (2, 3) being exclusively positively connected by rabbeting or stamping, such that the first metal strip is strips (2, 3) are displaceable relative to the second metal strip each other.~~

Claim 2 (currently amended): A protection device according to claim 1, wherein the first metal strip ~~(2)~~ facing the electrode ~~(4)~~ is made from a material that does not adhere to a material of the electrode ~~(4)~~, and the second metal strip ~~(3)~~ facing the workpiece is made from a material that does not adhere

to a material of the workpiece.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A protection device according to claim 1, wherein the first metal strip ~~(2)~~ facing the electrode ~~(4)~~ is made from a material selected from the group consisting of ferrous metals and an alloy having its main component being from the group of ferrous metals, and wherein the second metal strip ~~(3)~~ facing the workpiece to be welded, is made of copper or a copper alloy.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A protection device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the first metal strip and the second metal strip ~~(2, 3)~~ has a melting temperature of above 1000 °C or a conductivity of above 1 m/($\Omega \cdot \text{mm}^2$).

Claims 5-6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (currently amended): A protection device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the metal strips (2, 3)~~ the first metal strip and the second metal strip are superimposed in a congruent manner.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (previously presented): A protection device according to claim 1, wherein ~~the metal strips (2, 3)~~ the first metal strip and the second metal strip are arranged so as to be displaceable at different speeds.

Claims 10-22 (canceled)